

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL MEMORANDUM**

**HB 2561 – SB 2615**

March 8, 2016

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Requires the Department of Correction (DOC) to report to the Government Operations Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives regarding any furloughs granted for pregnancy or severe medical conditions.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (013366):** Deletes all language after the enacting clause and rewrites the bill.

Creates a 17-member Select Oversight Committee on Corrections (the Committee) for the purpose of improving planning for facilities and programs, creating a better working environment for correction management, and ensuring implementation of proposed improvements in the correctional system. The Governor will appoint three members, the Speaker of the Senate will appoint seven members, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives will appoint seven members. All members must be members of the General Assembly.

Requires the Committee to meet at least quarterly with members being entitled to reimbursement in the same manner as set forth in Tenn. Code Ann. § 3-1-106. Prohibits members from receiving additional reimbursement when the General Assembly is in session.

Requires the Committee to submit a report of its activities to each member of the General Assembly by January 15 of each year. Authorizes the Committee to enter into contracts for technical and professional services. The Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives must jointly determine the qualifications, task, and job description of any consultant contracted for such services.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$117,500**

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Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Seventeen members of the General Assembly will serve on the Committee. All 17 members are legislative members.
- The committee must meet at least four times per year. At least one meeting each year will be held while the General Assembly is in session; therefore, at least three meetings will require per diem and travel reimbursement payments.
- Legislative members receive \$204 per day for official legislative activities and \$0.47 per mile for travel. It is assumed that each member will make a round trip of 297 miles per meeting.
- The bill as amended will result in a recurring increase state expenditures exceeding \$17,523  $\{[(17 \text{ members} \times \$204) + (17 \text{ members} \times \$0.47 \times 297 \text{ miles})] \times 3 \text{ meetings}\}$ .
- The Office of Legislative Administration indicates that the contract for the previous Corrections Oversight Committee in the mid-1990s was approximately \$100,000; therefore, recurring contracting costs for the proposed Committee are reasonably estimated to exceed \$100,000 per year.
- The total recurring increase in state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$117,523  $(\$100,000 + \$17,523)$ .
- Any increase in state expenditures for reporting is estimated to be not significant.

## **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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